## REMARKS

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

There are no formal matters pending.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15, 17 and 19 stand rejected as obvious over FERNANDEZ, WO 99/65256 in view of SHUMAN 6,708,202.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, and 18 stand rejected as obvious over FERNANDEZ and SHUMAN, in view of SCANNELL et al. 5,377,354.

Claim 10 stands rejected as obvious over FERNANDEZ and SHUMAN, in view of NELSON 6,061,718.

Dependent Claims 20, 22, 25 and 26 stand rejected as obvious over FERNANDEZ and SHUMAN in view of CHONG et al. 5,497,319.

Claims 21, 23, 24, 27, and 28 are rejected as obvious over FERNANDEZ and SHUMAN in view of SCANNELL et al. in further view of CHONG et al.

Claim 29 is rejected over FERNANDEZ and SHUMAN in view of NELSON in further view of CHONG et al.

Response

The Official Action agrees that FERNANDEZ does not disclose the text of an email being shortened into a short text by including registered keywords and excluding words intermediate the registered keywords (OA page 11, second paragraph).

SHUMAN teaches examining a message to create an information object that highlights important information about the message. However, that is not the feature recited and missing from FERNANDEZ.

Consider what claim 1 actually recites, "analysis means for receiving the electronic mail sent from the first sending means via the internet and for **carrying out a keyword analysis** of a message portion of the received electronic mail **on the basis of keywords previously registered by the receiver to obtain a short text of the message portion**,". This teaching is not in SHUMAN.

On page 3 of the Official Action, it is stated (emphasis added) that "Such a method taught by Shuman **implies** keywords are registered within the email."

Applicant disagrees.

First, the claim recites the keywords registered in the receiver, not in the email.

SHUMAN teaches examining message properties for certain conditions, e.g., is the date of a proposed meeting in conflict with another already scheduled

meeting. This condition testing does not imply keywords necessarily registered within the email or a receiver. Rather, it appears that there is a property analysis in SHUMAN that extracts information.

See that the Abstract speaks to examining the message for message properties by applying a series of if-then statements and composing information items that reflect the state of the message item.

Still further, the claim recites "a keyword analysis … to obtain a short text of the message portion." SHUMAN does not teach shortening the message portion but rather teaches deriving information from the message.

See the next two parts of claim 1:

"the message portion of the received electronic mail comprising a string of first words that include the registered keywords and, located intermediate the first words, second words that fail to include the registered keywords," and

"the analysis means selectively shortening the message portion to retain the first words that include the registered keywords and to leave out the second words that fail to include the registered keywords to form the short text of the message retaining the first words and omitting the intermediate second words;".

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The recitation is to selectively shortening the message portion to a short text of the message that retains keywords and leaves out the intermediate words between the keywords. SHUMAN has no such teaching.

Studying the entire SHUMAN reference provides guidance as to what one of skill, absent impressible hindsight, would understand as to the art, at the time of SHUMAN and teachings of SHUMAN as to what could be done and how it could be done.

The SHUMAN Abstract discloses a form for displaying an electronic message item, wherein that form includes an information object that highlights important information about the message. The Abstract discloses that the information displayed in the information object is automatically extracted/derived by examining the message properties that constitute the message item, the examination being conducted by applying a series of if-then statements to predetermined message properties. But extracted does not mean the recited message text shortening.

The Abstract discloses a further methodology of the program ***composes one or more information items that reflect the state of the message item***. Further, SHUMAN's Abstract teaches that the information items are composed in a natural language format and are prioritized prior to being displayed in the information object. This is not that shortening recited by the claims.

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The Official Action has specifically pointed to column 11, line 65 through column 12, line 8, this passage is reproduced below, together with the preceding section heading (emphasis added):

The Preferred Method for Highlighting Information Associated With an Electronic Message

The present invention provides a method for highlighting information contained in an electronic message, which may be an e-mail message, meeting request, or other form of electronic communication. Generally described, the present invention provides an information object (referred to as an "information bar" or "infobar") that is used to highlight important information that is extracted or derived from the contents of the electronic message. This helps draw the user's attention to the important information and virtually eliminates the possibility that the user will overlook the important information.

The passage teaches to create a new data element, i.e., the infobar, which is populated with important information extracted or derived from the contents of the electronic message. There is no teaching as to editing or shortening the email message portion text.

Figure 6 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a display window 600 that is used to display an electronic message and an infobar 630. A message window 615 provides space for

displaying message header information 620 (e.g., to, from, subject, etc.) and message text 625.

The infobar 630 includes one or more information items that describe some aspect of the message item. Each information item includes an icon 635 and a text string 640. The icon 635 may be chosen to reflect the nature of the information conveyed in the text string 640.

See Figures 7-8, providing examples of how an infobar can be used to display information when used with e-mail and meeting request message items.

Figure 7 illustrates a display window 700 associated with a meeting request message item (the user Bill has received a meeting request message from Bob Smith). The user views the message in the display window 700, which includes message window 715. The message window 715 displays header information 720, which includes the name of the meeting organizer and the subject, location, and time of the meeting. Beneath the header information 720, the message window 715 includes text 725, which was provided by the organizer.

See column 12, beginning at line 42, "The message window 715 also includes an infobar 730. When the user selects a meeting request message to be viewed, the form that is used to view the object automatically invokes code that evaluates the state of various message properties and determines what, if any, information should be displayed in the infobar 730. In this

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example, the program module has automatically checked the proposed meeting date against the user's calendar, and has determined that the proposed meeting date conflicts with an appointment that the user has already scheduled. Accordingly, the infobar 730 displays an information item that reports the conflict. In this case, the information item includes a warning icon 735 and a text string 740, which states 'This meeting conflicts with another appointment on your calendar.' Without the infobar 730, the user may not be immediately aware of the conflict."

Thus, the SHUMAN teaching concerning column 11, line 65 through column 12, line 8, is to provide an infobar used to highlight important information that is extracted or derived from the contents of the electronic message. In this example, the meeting time conflict. This helps draw the user's attention to the important information (time conflict) and virtually eliminates the possibility that the user will overlook the important information. However, see that the entire text of the email is displayed. There is no teaching as to the recitation of shortening text of an email by including registered keywords from within the email, and excluding words intermediate the registered keywords.

Figure 8 illustrates a display window 800 associated with an e-mail message. The message window 815 displays header information 820, which includes the name of the sender and the

subject of the message. Beneath the header information 820, the message window 815 includes the message text 825, which was provided by the sender.

Again, the entire text of the email message is displayed. Thus, this disclosure of SHUMAN also does not teach shortening text of an email by including registered keywords from within the email, and excluding words intermediate the registered keywords.

In contrast to the present invention, SHUMAN teaches to create a new data element, the infobar. SHUMAN teaches that when the user selects an e-mail message to be viewed, the form that is used to view the message automatically invokes code that evaluates various message properties and determines what, if any, information should be displayed in the infobar. However, see that the displayed information may not include words from the received message, e.g., when there is a meeting date conflict.

See in the Figure 8 example, the program module has automatically checked the message properties determined that the sender set the message priority to "high." Accordingly, the infobar 830 displays an information item that reports that the message priority is high. In this case, the information item includes an information icon 835 and a text string 840, which states "This message has high importance." SHUMAN, in this example, teaches an additional data element that helps the user

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avoid overlooking that level of importance placed on the message by the sender.

Thus, SHUMAN does not teach that for which it was offered. Even if one of skill were to consider SHUMAN, the teaching would be to add the infobar.

Thus, even if combined, there is no teaching as to shortening text of an email by including registered keywords from within the email, and excluding words intermediate the registered keywords.

Accordingly, at least for this reason, all the rejections fail. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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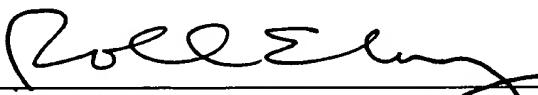
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